

**A Note from the Director of Development,  
Lou Ellen Stansell**



# Annual Report 2018-2019

Dear St. Mark's Families and Friends,

I feel so grateful to have had my 8th anniversary at St. Mark's this past summer and to be in the middle of my 9th school year here. Some people would say that my role is in Development, or Advancement, and that is all true. Fund development and advancing our mission are important and exciting, but my favorite part about my job is philanthropy. The word philanthropy can be broken into its roots of "phil" and "anthro" to literally translate into the love of people. The gifts we share as a community at St. Mark's are for the betterment of our people, given out of love.

The 2018-19 year at St. Mark's was an incredible success. We celebrate those successes here in the form of an Annual Report. While it sometimes feels strange to pause and look backward mid-year in our fast-paced environment, it is so important to recognize our triumphs and our community's generosity.



### **2018-2019 Annual Fund**

We are especially grateful for **Kourtney and Vijay D'Cruz**, who recruited a dedicated group of class representatives and worked hard to raise a record-breaking \$505,888. We are proud to once again reach 100% participation among our Board of Trustees and our faculty and staff, while also reaching 86% parent participation. Donors who gave to our Annual Fund last year appear on the following pages. These gifts are making a critical difference right now in our classrooms and programs.

### **Parent Guild & Volunteers**

We remain incredibly grateful for our parent volunteers. Our parent organization, the Parent Guild, along with many other groups on campus, consistently offer their time and talents to make our community stronger. St. Mark's parents are uniquely passionate, and their commitment to our community shines through their efforts. We are tremendously grateful for the work of **Charlene Coddington**, who served as the Parent Guild president for the 2018-19 school year. Part of what makes our community warm and inviting are traditions like Scarborough Fair, Breakfast with Santa, Parent Education events, Visiting Authors, Grandparent and Friends Day, and the New Family Ice Cream Social. There are parent volunteers on our campus literally every day working in classrooms or the library, facilitating events or serving our students and faculty. When we have tried to enumerate the number of volunteer hours that it takes to make a year at St. Mark's run, the process is overwhelming. Thank you to the many volunteers who make us better.

Your investment in St. Mark's, makes an impact. That is what it is all about - philanthropy for the betterment of people, given out of love. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lou Ellen Stansell  
Director of Development